

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: H. YOKOUCHI  
Serial No. 09/809,257  
Filed: March 16, 2001

Group Art: 2171  
Examiner: M. Filipczyk  
For: REPLICATION SYSTEM AND PROGRAM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop Patent Application  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified  
application as follows.